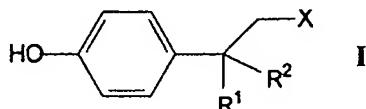


IN THE CLAIMS

1-17. (canceled)

18. (currently amended) A cosmetic or ~~dermopharmaceutical~~ composition ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of:  
an excipient acceptable in cosmetic terms; and  
a compound with the general formula I:



its salts with an acid acceptable in cosmetic terms, and its isomers, in which:

X is  $-NR^3R^4$  or  $-N=CR^5R^6$ ;

each of  $R^1$  and  $R^2$ , which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen, a halogen, an alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, acyl, alcohol or alkoxy;

each of  $R^3$  and  $R^4$ , which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom, alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, acyl, or a sugar;

each of  $R^5$  and  $R^6$ , which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, or aralkyl;

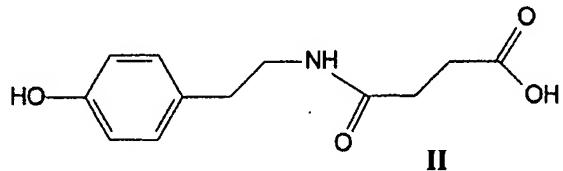
with the exception that formula I does not comprise tyramine and its derivatives formed by bonding on the OH or to X, when X is  $NH_2$ , any alkyl chain, comprising from 1 to 24 carbon atoms, and with the further exception that the formula I does not comprise synephrine.

19. (currently amended) The cosmetic or ~~dermopharmaceutical~~ composition of claim 18, wherein said compound is present at a concentration between 0.0001 (m/m) and 50% (m/m).

20. (currently amended) The cosmetic or ~~dermatological~~ composition of claim 18, wherein said compound is present at a concentration between 0.001 (m/m) and 20% (m/m).

21. (currently amended) The cosmetic or ~~dermopharmaceutical~~ composition of claim 18, wherein X is  $-NR^3R^4$ ,  $R^1$  is OH,  $R^2 = R^3 = R^4$  is H and said compound is octopamine or one of its salts.

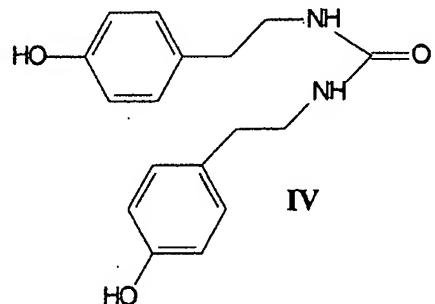
22. (withdrawn) The cosmetic or ~~dermopharmaceutical~~ composition of claim 18, wherein said compound comprises N-succinyl-tyramine with the following formula II:



or one of its salts.

23. (canceled)

24. (withdrawn) The cosmetic or ~~dermopharmaceutical~~ composition of claim 18, wherein said compound comprises N,N'-bistyramine urea with the following formula IV:



or one of its salts.

25. (currently amended) The cosmetic or ~~dermopharmaceutical~~ composition of claim 18, wherein said compound is in the form of a solution, dispersion, emulsion, paste, or powder.

26. (currently amended) The cosmetic or ~~dermopharmaceutical~~ composition of claim 18, wherein said compound may be part of, or contained within, a macrocapsule, microcapsule, nanocapsule, liposome, chylomicron, macroparticle, microparticle or nanoparticle, macrosponge, microsponge or nanosponge, or may be

adsorbed on an organic polymer powder, talc, bentonite or inorganic support.

27. (currently amended) The cosmetic or ~~dermopharmaceutical~~ composition of claim 18, wherein said compound is in the form of a lotion, milk, emollient, or cream.

28. (currently amended) The cosmetic or ~~dermopharmaceutical~~ composition of claim 18, wherein said compound is a formulation for skin care or hair care, make-up-removing base, foundation tint base, sun-screen, artificial suntan base, shaving base, aftershave, shampoo, lipstick, mascara, or nail varnish.

29. (currently amended) The cosmetic or ~~dermopharmaceutical~~ composition of claim 18, further comprising at least one adjuvant, organic or hydroglycolic solvent, fatty substance obtained by extraction or synthesis, ionic or non-ionic thickener, softener, opacifier, stabilizer, emollient, silicone,  $\alpha$ -hydroxy acid, antifoaming agent, moisturizing agent, vitamin, perfume, preservative, sequestrating agent, coloring agent, gel-forming and viscosity-increasing polymer, surfactant and emulsifier, other water- or fat-soluble active principle, plant extract, tissue extract, marine extract, sun filter, or antioxidant.

30. (withdrawn) A process for preparing the compound of claim 18, said process comprising:

reacting tyramine, or one of its salts, with a carbonyl derivative.

31. (withdrawn) The process of claim 30 comprising reacting tyramine, or one of its salts, in the presence of a base.

32. (withdrawn) The process of claim 30 comprising reacting tyramine, or one of its salts, in the presence of a coupling reagent used in peptide synthesis.

33. (withdrawn) A process for preparing the compound of claim 18, said process comprising:

reacting octopamine, or one of its salts, with a carbonyl derivative.

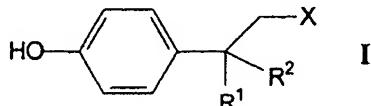
34. (withdrawn) The process of claim 33 comprising reacting octopamine, or one of its salts, in the presence of a base.

35. (withdrawn) The process of claim 33 comprising reacting octopamine, or one of its salts, in the presence of a coupling reagent used in peptide synthesis.

36. (withdrawn) The process of claim 30, wherein said carbonyl derivative is an aldehyde, active or inactive ester, carboxylic acid chloride, anhydride or isocyanate.

37. (withdrawn) The process of claim 33, wherein said carbonyl derivative is an aldehyde, active or inactive ester, carboxylic acid chloride, anhydride or isocyanate.

38. (currently amended) A compound represented by one of the following formulas:



wherein X is  $-NR^3R^4$  or  $-N=CR^5R^6$ ;

each of  $R^1$  and  $R^2$ , which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen, a halogen, an alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, acyl, alcohol or alkoxy;

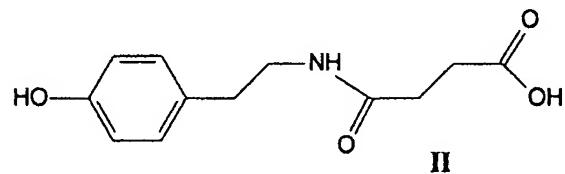
each of  $R^3$  and  $R^4$ , which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom, alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, acyl, or a sugar;

each of  $R^5$  and  $R^6$ , which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, or aralkyl;

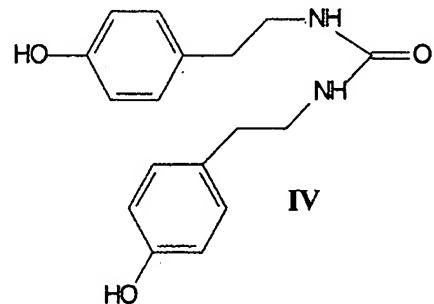
with the exception that formula I does not comprise tyramine and its derivatives formed by

bonding on the OH or to X, when X is NH<sub>2</sub>, any alkyl chain, comprising from 1 to 24 carbon atoms, and with the further exception that the formula I does not comprise synephrine

or



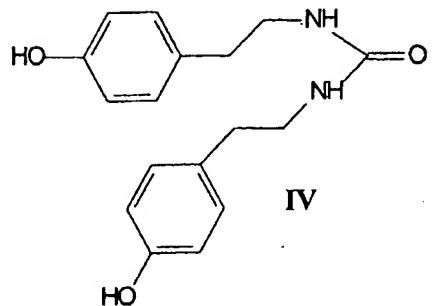
or



or a salt thereof, prepared by the process of claim 30 or 36.

39. (currently amended) The composition of claim 18, further comprising at least one material for the prevention or reduction of melanin production.

40. (withdrawn) A compound comprising the following formula IV:



or a salt thereof.

41. (previously presented) An article comprising: the composition of claim 18 bound to, incorporated in, absorbed in or adsorbed on textiles, natural or synthetic fibers, wools, and any materials that may be used for clothing or for day or night underwear intended to come into contact with the skin or hair, to exert their cosmetic effect by means of skin or hair/textile contact and to permit continuous topical delivery.

42. (withdrawn) A method for preventing or reducing melanogenesis comprising the step of administering to the skin, hair, mucosae, or a skin appendage the composition of claim 18.

43. (withdrawn) A method for reducing coloration on exposure to natural or artificial UV radiation, lightening the complexion, attenuating senile lentigines, homogenizing the color of the skin or lightening any pigmentation associated with melanin comprising the step of administering to the skin, hair, mucosae, or a skin appendage the composition of claim 18.